

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 15, wherein said acaricidal aqueous solution comprises from 10 to 100 g/l of sodium bicarbonate.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 15, wherein said acaricidal aqueous solution comprises from 40 to 60 g/l of sodium bicarbonate.

Claim 14 (Cancelled)

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A method for treating acarids in an element of the human environment, comprising applying an acaricidal aqueous solution comprising at least 10 g/l of sodium bicarbonate to an element of the human environment in need thereof, and evaporating the water from the acaricidal aqueous solution such that the sodium bicarbonate crystallizes in the form of grains that adhere to the outer surface of an acarid, wherein the sodium bicarbonate grains are acaricidally active and the acaricidal aqueous solution is free of any ~~other~~ neurotoxic acaricidal substance.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 15, wherein the element of the human environment is a rug or a carpet ~~consists of rugs and carpets~~.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 15, wherein the element of the human environment ~~consists of textiles~~ is a textile for bedding or clothing.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 15, wherein the aqueous solution is applied to the element by sprinkling.

Claim 19 (Cancelled)

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 15, wherein the treatment is carried out by immersion of the element in the aqueous solution.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 15, wherein the acarid is in egg form.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 15, wherein the acarid is in larvae form.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 15, wherein the acarid is in adult form.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 12, wherein the element of the human environment is a rug or a carpet ~~consists of rugs and carpets~~.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 12, wherein the element of the human environment ~~consists of textiles~~ is a textile for bedding or clothing.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 12, wherein the aqueous solution is applied to the element by sprinkling.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 12, wherein the treatment is carried out by immersion of the element in the aqueous solution.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 15, wherein the acaricidal aqueous solution is free of any other acaricidal substance.

Claim 29 (New): The method according to Claim 15, wherein the amount of acaricidal aqueous solution applied to the element per square meter of the element is at least 10 ml/m^2 .

Claim 30 (New): The method according to Claim 15, wherein the amount of acaricidal aqueous solution applied to the element per square meter of the element is at least 40 ml/m^2 .

Claim 31 (New): The method according to Claim 15, wherein the amount of acaricidal aqueous solution applied to the element per square meter of the element is 40 to 60 ml/m^2 .

Claim 32 (New): The method according to Claim 28, wherein the amount of acaricidal aqueous solution applied to the element per square meter of the element is 40 to 60 ml/m^2 .